

APPROVED
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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Senate Executive Committee
Minutes
Monday, February 01, 2016

Present: Chair Gay Miller, Michael Bohlmann, Nicholas Burbules, Bettina Francis, John Hart, Prasanta Kalita, Calvin Lear, Sam LeRoy, William Maher, Anita Mixon, Kathryn Oberdeck, David O'Brien, Michael Sandretto

Absent: Vice Chair Kim Graber, Abbas Aminmansour, Matthew Wheeler

Guests: Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost Edward Feser, Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Abbas Benmamoun, Associate Provost for Administrative Affairs Katherine Galvin, AAUP Local Chapter President Harry Hilton, Associate Chancellor for Public Affairs Robin Kaler, Academic Human Resources Director Deborah Stone

Media: Daily Illini – Samantha Jones Toal, Inside Illinois – Mike Helenthal, News-Gazette – Julie Wurth

A regular meeting of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) was called to order at 3:10 pm on Monday, February 1, 2016 in 232 English Building, with Chair Miller presiding.

1. Introductions

Introductions were made.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from November 30, 2015 were approved as distributed.

3. Chair's Remarks

SEC Chair Miller reported that President Killen expressed concern over the current budget situation. The President will continue to be actively engaged and expects a resolution to the budget impasse soon.

MAP (Monetary Award Program) funding is still a concern with ~\$30 million per semester being spent for University of Illinois students while the state is unable to fund the program. Students are now more aware of the lack of funding and are engaged in assisting the campus to share concern with the legislature. Miller thanked the students for their engagement.

Questions have been raised over the economic downturn in China and if it will influence student attendance or housing on the Urbana campus. Information about this has been requested. Application numbers are up overall for the Urbana campus by 11% for fall 2016.

Chair Miller discussed what it means to be a leader or team member on this campus. All of us are leaders or team members at some point. It is valuable to think about these roles. Miller attended a campus workshop on leadership education. Miller shared a few points on leadership philosophy. Leaders are individuals working with others to create positive change. Leadership development begins with self-knowledge. Leadership is exercised as members of teams, businesses, organizations, and citizens. A book on strengths based leadership lists four key elements that followers need: trust, compassion, stability, and hope. Leaders should ensure these key elements are provided as leaders and we hope we can be good leaders and team members on this campus.

4. Chancellor's Remarks

Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost Edward Feser gave remarks in the absence of the Chancellor. Feser mentioned several dean searches that are underway including the Dean for

the College of AHS (Applied Health Studies), Dean of the College of Medicine, and Dean of the College of ACES (College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences).

Feser noted that the Office of Admissions sent offer letters out and prospective students have until May 1 to accept. Applications have increase by 11% overall.

Background Check process reports are scheduled to be sent to SEC in February and October. The data will be distributed by Abbas Benmamoun, Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs.

The University continues without a budget and the outlook for next year is uncertain. The usual budget planning process involves constituting the CBOC (Campus Budget Oversight Committee), disseminating budget guidance, receiving budgets from the colleges, and meeting with the Dean's Budget Committee. This year the CBATF (Campus Budget Advisory Task Force) has been formed and CBOC will not be constituted. A modified budget process will be used for this year including reporting the budget plan to the SEC for comment. Feser noted that this year's budget process is not a permanent change. At the end of this budget planning cycle, there will be a clearer idea of what modified process will be used next year.

Consensus on the Urbana campus is the current budget model is not functioning well. A formal process to revise the budget model has been initiated and will likely be a 12-18 month process. The CBATF has already made suggestions for future changes to the budget model and the budget process.

Feser commented that the search for a new chancellor is underway and the search committee is meeting.

In response to a question regarding budget reductions, Feser replied that units are asked to look at 3%, 5%, and 7% reductions. Across the board reductions are not expected. This approach is to get all units thinking as aggressively as possible about savings and revenue increases. Units should proactively think about how the campus needs to adjust over the long-term with continued reduced state support. How can the campus be as productive as possible without relying on state funds?

5. Items Referred to Committee

A. Background Check Policy

Burbules, Chair of the Senate Committee on General University Policy (GUP), noted that regular data collection on long-term effects would be shared with various campus committees. Burbules made a motion that the data and/or report is shared with GUP and the Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion (EQ). EQ and GUP would then report to the full Senate. The motion was seconded and discussion followed.

Feser noted there would be a regular update on the Background Check process and there would also be an annual report that would include the overall impact of the Background Check Policy.

The motion was approved by voice and the item will be removed from further SEC agendas until EQ or GUP has information to report.

B. Assessment of the *ad hoc* Licensing Advisory Committee

GUP Chair Burbules reported that GUP is still waiting for a draft committee charge from the current Licensing Advisory Committee (LAC). The GUP committee's recommendation will almost certainly be to form a standing committee with an expanded charge.

C. Campus-wide Advice on Proper Use of Electronic Communications for University Business

Hart, Chair of the Senate Committee on Information Technology (IT), noted the IT committee's intention is not to create policy, but to interpret, and to provide advice and awareness. The IT committee is also working on a report in response to how the campus is reacting to FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests and making sure that faculty and other members of the campus community are safeguarded.

D. Guidelines for Senate Meetings

Maher, Chair of the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP), noted that this item is on the USSP agenda, but has not been discussed yet.

E. Non-discrimination Statement

USSP Chair Maher reported that SP.16.07 Recommendations in Response to Proposed Revisions to the Non-Discrimination Statement will appear on the February 8 Senate agenda.

6. New Business

A. Position Announcements

Chair Miller received communication from President Killeen regarding the Background Check Policy and making sure there is still a diverse pool of applicants for advertised positions.

O'Brien noted this item is not normally a topic the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure (AFT) would review, but was willing to discuss the topic with the AFT committee.

EQ Chair Oberdeck felt the EQ committee would welcome discussion on the topic of underrepresented groups applying for employment at the Urbana Campus. Oberdeck mentioned contacting consulting with other members of the campus community on this topic.

B. Report on the Diversity Climate Survey

Oberdeck, Chair of the Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Access (EQ), had intended to have a written report for SEC, but was very ill over the weekend. EQ has been working on this. For the March Senate meeting, we have the basics statistics that were generated through the WebTools. The response rate was not huge. The report needs to protect anonymity. Some expectations responders shared seemed unrealistic. The goal is to provide a current snapshot of the campus climate. There were some clear limitations. It was also done quickly. We are wrestling with how best to present the material in an appropriate context.

C. Suspension of Admissions to the Medical Scholars Program

Francis, Chair of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC), reported admission to the Medical Scholars Program has been suspended until the Illinois Carle College of Medicine (COM) programs are defined. The Medical Scholars Program may then be revived in some form.

D. EP.16.23 Proposal to Change the General Education Cultural Studies Requirement so that Students Have to Take Both a US Minority Culture and a Non-Western Culture Course

EPC Chair Francis reported that lively discussions have been held at recent EPC meetings regarding proposal EP.16.23. The new proposal would require students to take both a US Minority Culture course and a Non-Western Culture Course. Currently students are required to take one or the other course. Another issue is a previous proposal, EP.89.09, which was approved but never fully implemented.

Several SEC members agreed that general education requirements as a whole should be reconsidered, but this issue should be addressed more immediately. Francis noted that EPC plans to continue discussing proposal EP.16.23 at the February 15 EPC meeting.

E. Setting of the February 8, 2016 Senate Agenda

The agenda was approved as amended.

7. Announcements/Verbal Reports for Information

A. Update from the Search Committee for the Athletic Director

On behalf of Matthew Wheeler, Chair of the Athletic Director search committee, Chair Miller read the following statement.

“The AD Search Committee, appointed by the Chancellor, has met numerous times and is in the process of screening applications. The preferred application date was January 4th, 2016 but applications are still being received. The application pool is very diverse with many qualified candidates. Everyone who has applied is receiving full consideration by the committee. The committee is moving expeditiously and hopes to have suggestions for the finalists to Interim Chancellor Wilson as soon as possible.”

B. Update Report on UI Strategic Planning Steering Committee

Miller noted this report was given by President Killeen at the previous SEC meeting.

C. Provost Office seminar series “Thriving as an Associate Professor” with a panel discussion entitled “Know Your University” about the Senate’s role in shared governance

The panel is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 3:30-5:00 pm in 210 Illini Union. Volunteers are needed to accompany SEC Vice Chair Kim Graber at the seminar. Chair Miller requested volunteers contact her directly and suggested that chairs contact their respective committee members if appropriate.

D. Provost Office New Dean Leadership Series – *Shared Governance in a College*

The panel is scheduled for March 16, 2016 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. Volunteers are needed. Chair Miller made the same request for volunteers as above.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 pm.

Jenny Roether
Clerk of the Senate